

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Zimbabwe
Program Title:	Participation
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	613-008
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$746,000 DA; \$2,282,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$510,000 ESF
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$1,135,000 DA; \$2,000,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2000
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2005

Summary: USAID's program to enhance citizen participation in economic and political decision making includes training, technical assistance, and grants to U.S. and local organizations to: 1) enhance civil society's advocacy activities with Parliament and local authorities; 2) build a more effective and accessible Parliament; and 3) build the capacity of local authorities and to make them more receptive to local citizen input. The objective is designed to strengthen both the demand and supply sides of the democratic equation by supporting civil society organizations (CSOs) and selected government institutions to promote sustainable dialogue and public discourse.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Increased participation by Zimbabwean civil society in the political and economic life (\$746,000 DA; \$2,282,000 ESF). USAID will support the advocacy programs of 15 CSOs that demand greater inclusiveness in national-level decision making through improved advocacy with Parliament. CSOs will receive training and technical assistance as well as institutional support to strengthen their organizational structures and policies. In FY 2004, participating CSOs will continue to advocate for issues of national significance including policies that assist marginalized groups such as women, children, the rural poor, and the physically and mentally disabled. They will also work to amend repressive legislation such as the Public Order and Security Act and the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act. At the local level, CSOs that articulate their constituents' concerns and advocate to their respective local authorities will receive small grants and technical assistance. Advocacy issues will include rule of law and policy issues, transparency and accountability in identifying budget priorities, service delivery at the local level, and how to cope in a hyper-inflationary environment. Principal contractors and grantees: Pact, Inc.; the Urban Institute; and local non-governmental institutions.

Improve the capability and accessibility of local authorities (\$510,000 prior year ESF). Using prior year ESF funds, USAID will concentrate technical assistance and training on 15 urban and rural local authorities that are committed to democratic reform. USAID will train elected mayors and councilors in modern management practices, good governance and effective participation with civil society. USAID will assist local authorities to improve their creditworthiness so they can access private capital markets, and to improve their management skills to increase accountability and transparency, and minimize corruption. Principal contractor: Urban Institute.

FY 2005 Program:

Increased participation by Zimbabwean civil society in political and economic life (\$735,000 DA; \$1,500,000 ESF). USAID will continue to support 15 CSOs in their advocacy with Parliament. In addition, the creation of a culture of interaction between policymakers and organizations representing various population groups will become more entrenched--especially crucial in preparation for eventual political transition in Zimbabwe. At the local level, USAID will continue to provide technical assistance to CSOs so that they can better represent their constituents' interests. Primary contractors and grantees: Pact, Inc., the Urban Institute, and local non-governmental organizations.

Increase effectiveness of Parliament. USAID will explore and document the critical linkages between Parliament and other governance institutions in need of strengthening. Since Parliament cannot function in isolation, the key points of interaction with the legislative drafters, line ministries, media, civil society, professional associations and interest groups will be explored and cultivated. Support will be given to Parliament's secretariat, which needs to play a key role in ensuring an orderly and effective transition after the parliamentary elections scheduled in June 2005. Plans will be developed to prepare for the start of the sixth Parliament, making efforts to ensure that the reforms and improvements introduced in the fifth Parliament are carried forward through extensive documentation, orientation, and public awareness. Primary contractor: SUNY.

Improved capability and accessibility of local authorities (\$400,000 DA; \$500,000 ESF). USAID will consolidate its assistance to the 15 local authorities in order to support the mayors and councilors to effectively manage the affairs of local government in a participatory and effective manner. Primary contractor: the Urban Institute.

Performance and Results: USAID's activities contributed to increased participation in economic and political decision-making between CSOs and selected government institutions in FY 2003. CSOs' perceptions of valid engagement with Parliament on issues relevant to their areas of concern exceeded expectations, fourteen of the 15 advocacy CSOs showed improvement in their advocacy programs, and the number of CSOs that represent women and/or marginalized communities exceeded the target. Public participation in Parliament's public hearings and committee meetings increased substantially, with a record high of 14 public hearings. This reflected a substantial increase in the opportunities for participation afforded to citizens, their organizations and the media. Parliament also exercised an increased oversight role through its committee meetings, producing reports that in several instances critically evaluated Executive Branch programs and policies. At the local level, the number of targeted municipalities that held four or more open public meetings - providing local citizens with an opportunity to participate - increased from two to seven (of the 15 municipalities that USAID works with). This is a significant indicator of enhanced participation between CSOs and local authorities. At the same time, the number of democratically elected civic leaders trained in modern management practices increased substantially. Since August 2003, 167 out of 340 newly elected councilors and mayors have participated in management training.

As a result of USAID's activities, the democratic space between civil society and these selected government institutions (parliament and local authorities) has not only been kept open, but has increased. By the end of this program in 2005, participation in decision-making will be enhanced, despite a national environment of severe political repression and harsh economic conditions.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Zimbabwe

613-008 Participation	DA	DFA	ESF
Through September 30, 2002			
Obligations	16,096	100	8,248
Expenditures	7,620	0	2,937
Unliquidated	8,476	100	5,311
Fiscal Year 2003			
Obligations	1,087	0	1,800
Expenditures	3,645	0	1,316
Through September 30, 2003			
Obligations	17,183	100	10,048
Expenditures	11,265	0	4,253
Unliquidated	5,918	100	5,795
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	0	0	510
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA			
Obligations	746	0	2,282
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004			
Obligations	746	0	2,792
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA			
Obligations	1,135	0	2,000
Future Obligations	0	0	0
Est. Total Cost	19,064	100	14,840